

Kitsap County District Court

CLAIRE A. BRADLEY
Presiding Judge
Department No. 1
614 Division Street, MS-25
Port Orchard, WA 98366



(360) 337-4468
Fax (360) 337-4865
e-mail: cabradle@kitsap.gov

April 12, 2024

Washington State Bar Association Board of Governors
1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98101
barleaders@wsba.org

Re: Joseph M.R. Ortiz Application for WSBA Governor At Large (Young Lawyer)

Greetings—

I am writing to enthusiastically recommend Joseph Ortiz for WSBA Governor At Large (Young Lawyer) position. I believe that Mr. Ortiz has the demeanor and integrity necessary to be an excellent Governor At Large for the WSBA.

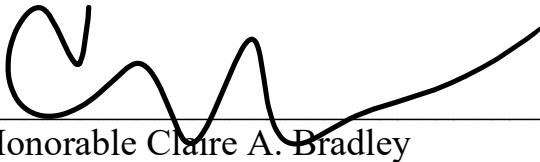
I met Mr. Ortiz when he began practicing law in the Kitsap County District Court as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney. The District Court criminal calendars and issues before the court can be extremely busy, fast paced and at times can be complex. Mr. Ortiz consistently does an excellent job with the cases to which he is assigned. He argues strenuously (but professionally) for his position, always focusing on the law and court rules in support of his arguments. For a relatively new attorney, he has far surpassed all expectations for what a Deputy Prosecutor should be. His courtroom demeanor, respect for litigants and attorneys and his command of the law is far beyond what someone with his experience typically possesses. His ethics are beyond reproach.

In my opinion, Mr. Ortiz has the right temperament to be an effective Governor At Large. He is approachable, thoughtful and can lighten a conversation with humor. He is equally adept at discerning complex matters, and is a quick study.

It is my personal opinion based on my observations that Mr. Ortiz is well-qualified for a Governor At Large position. This reference and recommendation is personal, and should not be perceived as an attempt to exert pressure by reason of my judicial office.

Sincerely,

DATED this 12th day of April, 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large initial 'C' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The Honorable Claire A. Bradley